(d) by when these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (d) Proposals from State Governments for the grant of Central financial assistance under various schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources are received on a regular basis. At times, these proposals are found to be incomplete or not in line with the provisions of the schemes/programmes. Complete proposals are considered and approved subject to budget provisions. As of now, no proposal from Tamil Nadu is pending with this Ministry for want of clearance.

Mini hydel projects in tribal areas

3104. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) is allowed to run mini hydel projects in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Andhra Pradesh State Government has established AP Tribal Power Company Ltd. (A.P. TRIPCO) under the Companies Act, 1956 for the setting up of small hydro projects in tribal areas of the State. A.P. TRIPCO is to act as the technical, financial and logistical facilitator for such projects. These projects, which are community owned and community managed, are to be entrusted to local women groups. Profits from such projects are to accrue to local tribal people for their well-being and development.

popularization of non-conventional energy sources in rural areas

†3105. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any target to introduce bio-energy as an alterantive;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have failed to develop non-conventional energy inspite of all possibilities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if not, the details of Government's efforts made to popularize non-conventional energy in remote areas, particularly in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) The aim is to add around 10 percent additional power generation capacity to be set up in the country during the 10th and 11th Plan periods through renewables of which 3% is expected from bio-energy.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Over 8000 MW grid-interactive renewable power generation capacity has already been set up in the country as on 31.3.2006. Of this, around 4650 MW has been added during the first 4 years of the 10th Plan period against the Plant target of 3075 MW. Nonetheless, to popularize deployment of renewable energy financial and fiscal incentives are being provided that include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, concessional duties and relief from taxes. In addition, preferential tariff is given to grid interactive renewable power in most potential States. Publicity and awareness on the use of renewable energy systems/ devices is also created through print, postal and electronic media and special events like the Rajiv Gandhi Akshay Urja Diwas are being organised. District-level Advisory Committees have been constituted in States to facilitate effective coordination of renewable energy schemes/programmes.

Major activities of the Ministry

3106. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major activities of his Ministry in the last five years; and

(b) in what way the schemes of his Ministry would be for general well-being of the nation in general, and those living near the ocean in particular?

THE MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The major various activities of the Ministry taken up during the last five years are broadly divided into two major categories *viz.*, Programmes of Societal benefit of coastal population and Programmes of national interests. These include (i) Development of Desalination Technology, (ii) Lobster technology, (iii) Potential Fishing zone advisories, (iv) Ocean State Forecast, (v) Early Tsunami Warning System, (vi) Marine Living Resources, (vii) Coastal Zone Management, (viii) Coastal marine pollution.